

Application No.: 10/054,241
Supplemental Response

Attorney Docket No.: EMC2-078AUS

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and re-examination are hereby requested.

Applicant wishes to make of record a telephone interview with the Examiner on January 29, 2004. The Examiner indicated that claims 11-47 were allowable and suggested adding a crossbar switch into claims 48-59. During the interview the Applicant advised the Examiner that in order to have more time to study the merits of the Examiner's position, he intended to file a divisional patent application with such claims while moving the prosecution of the present application forward by adding a crossbar switch to claims 48-53 in this patent application. It was pointed out that claims 54-59 already included a crossbar switch.

Also discussed were the following new references:

- U. S. Patent No. 5,949,982, and
U. S. Patent No. 6,125,429.

It was noted that claims 48, 49, 50, and 51 pointed out that each director had a plurality of end user data ports and an interface state data port, such arrangement not being in U. S. Patent No. 6,125,429, 49.

It was also pointed out that claims 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, and 59 point out that the interface state data passes through a different channel.

No agreement was reached.

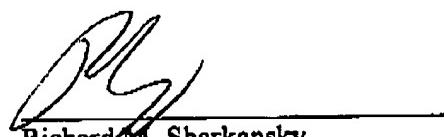
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In the event any additional fee is required, please charge such amount to Patent and
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Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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